

FIRSTLY, I WISH TO SAY HOW PLEASED I AM TO HAVE THIS  
OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK TO YOU ON A SUBJECT OF CONSIDERABLE  
CONTINUING IMPORTANCE TO THE NORTH. IT IS MOST ENCOURAGING  
TO SEE THIS KIND OF JOINT APPROACH TO ADDRESSING SOME OF THE  
MAJOR CONCERNS OUR COUNTRIES SHARE.

THE ARCTIC CHALLENGES CANADIANS AND AMERICANS WITH THE  
OPPORTUNITY -- PERHAPS THE LAST -- TO DO THE RIGHT THING BY  
SPACESHIP EARTH, TO DEMONSTRATE FOR OURSELVES AND FOR THE  
WORLD, A PATTERN OF DEVELOPMENT THAT RESPECTS  
BOTH MAN AND NATURE. AS MINISTERS OF INDIAN AND NORTHERN AFFAIRS  
WE COMMIT OUR COUNTRIES TO A JOINT APPROACH TO  
ADDRESSING THESE ISSUES. IN RESEARCH EFFORTS SUCH AS  
THIS WHERE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY COME  
TOGETHER TO DISCUSS A RANGE OF IMPORTANT ISSUES.

NOTES FOR REMARKS  
BY THE  
HON. JOHN C. MUNRO

MINISTER OF INDIAN & NORTHERN AFFAIRS  
AT THE 6TH BIENNIAL JOINT CANADA/UNITED STATES  
MEETING ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY,  
OTTAWA,  
OCTOBER 26, 1982

AS MINISTER OF INDIAN AND NORTHERN AFFAIRS I FEEL  
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NORTHERNERS IS ONE OF THEM. FOSTERING SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH  
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AND IMPERATIVES OF THE NORTH IS AN EQUALLY IMPORTANT ONE --  
IN FACT, IT IS CRUCIAL TO CONSTRUCTIVE PLANNING OF ANY KIND.

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FIRSTLY, I WISH TO SAY HOW PLEASED I AM TO HAVE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK TO YOU ON A SUBJECT OF CONSIDERABLE CONTINUING IMPORTANCE TO THE NORTH. IT IS MOST ENCOURAGING TO SEE THIS KIND OF JOINT APPROACH TO ADDRESSING SOME OF THE MAJOR CONCERNS OUR COUNTRIES SHARE.

THE ARCTIC CHALLENGES CANADIANS AND AMERICANS WITH THE OPPORTUNITY -- PERHAPS THE LAST -- TO DO THE RIGHT THING BY SPACESHIP EARTH, TO DEMONSTRATE FOR OURSELVES AND FOR THE WORLD, A PATTERN AND A COURSE OF DEVELOPMENT THAT RESPECTS BOTH MAN AND NATURE, BUT IT REQUIRES CONSIDERABLE COORDINATION AND COOPERATION - IN SHORT, A JOINT APPROACH TO ADDRESSING THESE ISSUES. I AM REASSURED BY EFFORTS SUCH AS THIS WHERE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY COME TOGETHER TO DISCUSS A RANGE OF IMPORTANT ISSUES.

AS MINISTER OF INDIAN AND NORTHERN AFFAIRS I BEAR RESPONSIBILITY FOR A WIDE ARRAY OF ISSUES AS THEY AFFECT NORTHERN CANADA AND ITS PEOPLE. ENSURING THAT DEVELOPMENT OF NORTHERN RESOURCES IS CARRIED OUT IN A WAY THAT BENEFITS NORTHERNERS IS ONE OF THEM. FOSTERING SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH THAT BROADENS OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE UNIQUE CHARACTERISTICS AND IMPERATIVES OF THE NORTH IS AN EQUALLY IMPORTANT ONE -- IN FACT, IT IS CRUCIAL TO CONSTRUCTIVE PLANNING OF ANY KIND.





AS EXPERTS AND PRACTITIONERS IN THE FIELD OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY YOU KNOW THAT APPLIED SCIENTIFIC INQUIRY LIES AT THE HEART OF RESOLVING MANY FUNDAMENTAL CONCERNS OF THE NORTH, SPECIFICALLY, NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT. IN SPEAKING OF NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT, I INCLUDE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, AND PARTICULARLY THE NEED TO ADAPT SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TO SERVE THE INTERESTS OF THE ARCTIC'S UNIQUE CULTURE AND ECOLOGY.

THIS CONFERENCE IS A TIME TO REFLECT ON WHAT WE HAVE ACCOMPLISHED IN THE NORTH IN THE AREA OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, PARTICULARLY DURING THE PAST DECADE. LET US NOT FORGET THAT THESE ACCOMPLISHMENTS WERE DUE, IN LARGE PART, TO THE VISION AND THE SENSE OF DIRECTION THAT HAS COME OUT OF MEETINGS SUCH AS THIS.

THIS IS A CRITICAL TIME FOR THE NORTH. AS A RESOURCE FRONTIER, THE NORTH IS BEING DEVELOPED AT AN UNPRECEDENTED PACE. PLACE NAMES ON THE MAP THAT UP TO ONLY A FEW YEARS AGO SERVED AS TRADING POSTS, TEMPORARY CAMPS OR WEATHER STATIONS NOW HAVE PERMANENT SETTLEMENTS WITH HOUSING STANDARDS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES SIMILAR TO THOSE OF SOUTHERN TOWNS. THE TRADITIONAL HUNTING-TRAPPING-FISHING ECONOMY HAS ALSO BEEN AUGMENTED AND DIVERSIFIED. NATIVE ARTISTS HAVE GAINED AN





INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION, WHILE OTHER NATIVE NORTHERNERS ARE INVOLVED IN COMMERCIAL VENTURES SUCH AS LOCAL CO-OPERATIVES OR THEY ARE WORKING IN THE NUMEROUS SERVICE INDUSTRIES. MINING ENTERPRISES ARE BEING ESTABLISHED BEYOND THE ARCTIC CIRCLE. IN BRIEF, THE "SOUTHERN" WAY OF LIVING AND THE ASSOCIATED EXPECTATIONS AND STANDARDS HAVE IMPACTED IN THE NORTH.

AND OF COURSE, WE ARE ALL FAMILIAR WITH THE EXPLORATION FOR HYDROCARBONS ON THE NORTHERN FRONTIERS OF BOTH OUR COUNTRIES. THE ALASKAN EXPERIENCE PREDATED THE CANADIAN AND WE ALL STAND TO BENEFIT FROM THE LESSONS LEARNED THERE. SINCE THEN, EXPLORATION THROUGHOUT NORTHERN CANADA, ESPECIALLY THE BEAUFORT SEA AND THE ARCTIC ISLANDS HAS ACCELERATED RAPIDLY; WE ARE NOW NEARING THE POINT WHERE COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF SOME OF THE SIGNIFICANT OIL AND GAS DISCOVERIES IS FEASIBLE. MAJOR INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE AND COMMITMENTS IN THE BILLIONS OF DOLLARS ARE BEING PLANNED TO ACCELERATE NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT. WE ARE LOOKING AT OVER \$50 BILLION TO THE END OF THE CENTURY.

BUT LET US NOT LOSE SIGHT OF THE FACT THAT THE GOALS FOR NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT REQUIRE CONSIDERATION OF MANY MORE FACTORS THAN THE SIMPLE ATTRACTION OF THE ECONOMICS OF





DEVELOPING NON-RENEWABLE RESOURCES. THESE PROJECTS LARGE AND SMALL, WILL HAVE A TREMENDOUS IMPACT ON THE SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL FABRIC OF THE NORTH.

THE NEEDS AND ASPIRATIONS OF NORTHERNERS AND THE MAINTENANCE OF THE NORTH'S ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY MUST BE A PRIME CONSIDERATION IN CHARTING THE COURSE OF DEVELOPMENT. THE GOVERNMENT IS COMMITTED TO DEVELOPING THE NORTH'S RENEWABLE AND NON-RENEWABLE RESOURCES - BUT NOT AT ANY PRICE. CERTAINLY, NOT AT THE EXPENSE OF NATIVE PEOPLE THROUGH THE DESTRUCTION OF THEIR ECONOMY AND THEIR CULTURE. NOR AT THE COST OF WILFULLY DESTROYED ENVIRONMENT.

THERE IS A GROWING AWARENESS OF THE IMPORTANT ROLE SCIENCE HAS TO PLAY IN THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT. WE ARE DEVELOPING THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL CAPABILITY NECESSARY TO ASSESS THE FEASIBILITY, THE ACCEPTABILITY AND THE SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF THESE PROJECTS BEFORE CRUCIAL AND IRREVERSIBLE DECISIONS ARE TAKEN.

WE KNOW HOW IMPORTANT IT IS THAT ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF ALL RESOURCE PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES ARE DETERMINED IN ADVANCE SO THAT APPROPRIATE



PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION DECISIONS CAN BE MADE. WITH THIS IN MIND, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT CREATED THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND REVIEW PROCESS TO DEAL WITH THE PROBLEMS. THE EARP PROCESS IS AN IMPORTANT SOURCE OF INFORMATION ON WHICH GOVERNMENT CAN BASE DECISIONS THAT WILL AFFECT THE NORTH. THE PROCESS IS A COMPLEX AND COMPREHENSIVE ONE; BUT WE WANT TO ENSURE THAT EACH PROPOSAL IS SUBJECTED TO AN ORDERLY PROCESS OF REVIEW SO THAT THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES CAN BE MEASURED AND ASSESSED PUBLICLY AND IN A SINGLE FORUM BEFORE DECISIONS ARE MADE.

YET ANOTHER EXAMPLE IS THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES REVOLVING FUND WHICH WAS ESTABLISHED BY THE RECENTLY ENACTED CANADA OIL AND GAS ACT. UNDER THIS PROGRAM, INDUSTRY WILL BE CONTRIBUTING \$15 MILLION A YEAR TO FINANCE ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL STUDIES RELATED TO OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT. THE ARCTIC PILOT PROJECT PROPOSAL IS ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF THE WAY IN WHICH SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ARE CENTRAL TO THE PLANNING OF MAJOR PROJECTS. \$220 MILLION IN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT HAS BEEN EARMARKED FOR THE NEXT TWENTY YEARS FOR THIS PROJECT ALONE.

THESE ARE ONLY A FEW EXAMPLES OF GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT TO NORTHERN SCIENCE.





MAINTAINING A PROPER BALANCE AMONGST THE MANY GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS AND PRIVATE SECTOR ACTIVITIES PRESENTS A FORMIDABLE CHALLENGE. FOR GOVERNMENT AGENCIES SUCH AS MINE, CONCERNED WITH ENVIRONMENTAL AND RESOURCE MATTERS, THE CHALLENGE IS PARTICULARLY PRESSING. WE WANT TO FACILITATE SOUND RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, BUT AT THE SAME TIME, WE MUST ENSURE THAT THE NORTH'S UNIQUE ECOSYSTEMS AND ENVIRONMENTAL AND RENEWABLE RESOURCES ARE PROPERLY MAINTAINED AND PROTECTED.

IN CHARTING THIS COURSE, WE MUST RELY ON THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY IN FORMULATING POLICY DIRECTIONS AND IN MAKING DECISIONS THAT WILL ULTIMATELY CHANGE THE FACE OF THE NORTH. IN CARRYING OUT THIS MANDATE WE HAVE ESTABLISHED SCIENTIFIC RESOURCE CENTERS AT INUVIK, IGLOOLIK AND FROBISHER BAY AND FOR THE PAST 20 YEARS WE HAVE BEEN PROVIDING GRANTS TO UNIVERSITIES TO TRAIN YOUNG RESEARCHERS IN A NUMBER OF SCIENTIFIC DISCIPLINES. THIS PAST YEAR WE CONTRIBUTED OVER \$625,000 TO SOME 22 CANADIAN UNIVERSITIES FOR ARCTIC STUDIES.

DURING THE 1980'S WE WILL BE INTENSIFYING OUR EFFORTS IN NORTHERN RESEARCH AND WE WILL BE LOOKING AT NEW APPROACHES TO ENVIRONMENTAL AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ISSUES. IN FACT, WORK IS NOW UNDERWAY ON A NUMBER OF FRONTS INCLUDING A NEW





ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT STRATEGY, A LAND USE PLANNING REGIME AND A NUMBER OF SECTORAL POLICIES RELATING TO HYDROCARBON DEVELOPMENT, MINING AND FORESTRY TO NAME ONLY A FEW. IT IS ALL PART OF OUR COMMITMENT TO ENSURE A PROPER BALANCE BETWEEN DEVELOPMENT AND THE PROTECTION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL INTEGRITY OF THE NORTH.

THIS CONFERENCE IS ALSO AN APPROPRIATE TIME TO REFLECT ON THE FIRST WORLD-WIDE CO-OPERATIVE SCIENTIFIC ENTERPRISE. I AM REFERRING, OF COURSE, TO THIS YEAR'S CENTENARY OF THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL POLAR YEAR. FROM AUGUST 1882 TO SEPTEMBER 1883, FIFTEEN EXPEDITIONS, SPONSORED BY TWELVE NATIONS, WENT TO ARCTIC AND ANTARCTIC REGIONS TO CARRY OUT A CAREFULLY PLANNED AND SYNCHRONIZED SET OF OBSERVATIONS IN MAGNETISM, AURORA, METEOROLOGY AND BIOLOGY. THE PLANNING AND COORDINATION OF THIS ENORMOUS UNDERTAKING MARKED A MOST SIGNIFICANT WORLD STEP FORWARD IN THE PHYSICAL SCIENCES AND HAS STRONGLY INFLUENCED THE CONCEPT OF SCIENCE IN NEARLY ALL DISCIPLINES IN THE SUBSEQUENT CENTURY. ACTUALLY, THIS MEETING TODAY IS IN ITSELF A LEGACY OF THAT FIRST INTERNATIONAL POLAR YEAR.

TO COMMEMORATE THIS VERY IMPORTANT CENTENARY OCCASION, I PLAN TO ESTABLISH A SPECIAL AWARD TO BE GIVEN FOR ACHIEVEMENT



IN NORTHERN SCIENCE. THE AWARD WILL TAKE THE FORM OF A SPECIALLY INSCRIBED MEDAL AND A CASH PRIZE TO BE AWARDED ANNUALLY. IT IS PART OF MY COMMITMENT TO FOSTER NORTHERN SCIENCE AND RESEARCH AND TO COMMEMORATE THOSE INDIVIDUALS WHO CONTRIBUTE SO MUCH TO THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE NORTH'S DELICATE AND UNIQUE ENVIRONMENT.

THE AGENDA FOR YOUR MEETING IS AN IMPRESSIVE ONE. YOU ARE DEALING WITH A BROAD RANGE OF IMPORTANT SCIENTIFIC ISSUES - FROM ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS AT ONE END OF THE SPECTRUM TO SOCIAL ISSUES AT THE OTHER. I AM CERTAIN WE WILL ALL GAIN BY SHARING OUR EXPERIENCE AND EXPERTISE. PERHAPS NO TWO COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD HAVE THE DEGREE OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL INTIMACY THAT CHARACTERIZES THE DAY-TO-DAY AND LONG TERM RELATIONS BETWEEN CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES. THIS EXCHANGE WILL, I AM SURE, ENCOURAGE AND PROMOTE FUTURE DIALOGUE.

THANK YOU.



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MUNRO, John C.  
AUTHOR

Notes for remarks by the Hon.

TITLE John C. Munro, Minister of  
Indian & Northern Affairs ...

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